

fee. They were so full of their new little book, and the fresh lesson which Mr. Stubbs had set them, that they could not help, every now and then, pulling out the book and looking at it. Thus they were doing as they happened to pass the 'Squire's house, which was perceived by Master Simpson, and out he came.

I must acquaint you, my pretty little readers, that Master Simpson was, as too many of the children of the rich are, a spoiled child, and indulged to the greatest excess in every thing. He was about the age, but somewhat stouter than Amintor, and yet, though he had variety of tutors in the house, he could hardly read. But this is not to be wondered at, when we consider, that he studied only just when he pleased, and you may suppose that was not often.

This Master Simpson, seeing a book in the hands of our little moralists, came up to them, and asked them what they

did with a book, and how they read it; adding, that they had better look after their sheep, and look after their home, than think about reading. He did not comprehend, he said, how any body had a right to learn to read, but only rich people; for it only made them more rich people; for it only made them more saucy, and neglectful of their business. If they learned to read, they would neglect their Prayer, the Belief, and the Ten Commandments, that was enough to make any people to know, as the parson would say, that they were the worst of them the rest.

"It is an idle question, Master Simpson, (replied Amintor) to ask us how we are doing with this book, because we are reading it. As to how we came by it, though it is a question, I will tell you it was lent us by our good parson Simpson, whom we have just now been reading the history of a naughty boy, and